

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A disposable single-use applicator assembly, comprising:
2 a package containing a fluid to be dispensed;
3 an applicator for dispensing said fluid, said applicator having a handle and a
4 fluid holding element at a first end portion of said handle;
5 said fluid holding element being disposed in said package;
6 a hermetic closure between a first end portion of said package and an
7 intermediate portion of said handle;
8 a second end portion of said handle extending clear of said package; and
9 said package having a breakable portion proximate to said hermetic closure to
10 allow said fluid holding element to be uncovered for use.

- 1 2. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said handle second end portion is relatively thin in one dimension and
3 relatively wide in another dimension and includes a location for applying a name,
4 trademark or other identifier.

- 1 3. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said handle second end portion includes a hole or other opening to facilitate
3 placement of said applicator assembly on a display hook.

- 1 4. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said handle second end portion includes means a grip enhancing surface.

- 1 5. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said handle intermediate portion is defined by relatively flat first and second
3 surfaces and non-tapered sides that facilitate formation of said hermetic closure.

1 6. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said hermetic closure comprises one of an adhesive bond or ultrasonic weld
3 bond.

1 7. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said fluid holding element comprises a urethane foam material.

1 8. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said breakable portion is oriented at an oblique angle relative to said
3 hermetic closure.

1 9. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said breakable portion is spaced from said hermetic closure by a distance
3 sufficient to form a drip cup after said breakable portion is broken and said fluid
4 holding element is withdrawn from said package.

1 10. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 1
2 wherein said breakable portion comprises a strip seal.

1 11. A disposable single-use applicator assembly, comprising:
2 a package adapted to hold a fluid to be dispensed;
3 an applicator for dispensing a fluid, said applicator having a handle and a
4 fluid holding element at a first end portion of said handle;
5 said fluid holding element being disposed in said package;
6 an opening in said package adapted to accept introduction of a fluid into said
7 package and on to said fluid holding element;
8 a hermetic closure between a first end portion of said package and an
9 intermediate portion of said handle;
10 a second end portion of said handle extending clear of said package; and
11 said package having a breakable portion proximate to said hermetic closure to
12 allow said fluid holding element to be uncovered for use.

1 12. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said handle second end portion is relatively thin in one dimension and
3 relatively wide in another dimension and includes a location for applying a name,
4 trademark or other identifier.

1 13. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said handle second end portion includes a hole or other opening to facilitate
3 placement of said applicator assembly on a display hook.

1 14. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said handle second end portion includes means a grip enhancing surface.

1 15. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said handle intermediate portion is defined by relatively flat first and second
3 surfaces and non-tapered sides that facilitate formation of said hermetic closure.

1 16. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said hermetic closure comprises one of an adhesive bond or ultrasonic weld
3 bond.

1 17. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said fluid holding element comprises a urethane foam material.

1 18. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said breakable portion is oriented at an oblique angle relative to said
3 hermetic closure.

1 19. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said breakable portion is spaced from said hermetic closure by a distance
3 sufficient to form a drip cup after said breakable portion is broken and said fluid
4 holding element is withdrawn from said package.

1 20. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said breakable portion comprises a strip seal.

1 21. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said opening in said package comprises an open end portion of said package.

1 22. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 21
2 wherein said package tapers outwardly from said hermetic closure to said open end
3 portion.

1 23. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said package comprises one or more seamed material sheets.

1 24. A disposable single-use applicator assembly in accordance with claim 11
2 wherein said handle is apertured to facilitate attachment of said fluid holding element
3 thereto.

1 25. A method for producing a disposable single-use applicator assembly charged
2 with a dispensable fluid comprising:
3 selecting an uncharged disposable single-use applicator assembly,
4 comprising:
5 a package adapted to hold a fluid to be dispensed;
6 an applicator for dispensing a fluid, said applicator having a handle and a
7 fluid holding element at a first end portion of said handle;
8 said fluid holding element being disposed in said package;
9 an opening in said package adapted to accept introduction of a fluid into said
10 package and on to said fluid holding element;
11 a hermetic closure between a first end portion of said package and an
12 intermediate portion of said handle;
13 a second end portion of said handle extending clear of said package; and

14 said package having a breakable portion proximate to said hermetic closure to
15 allow said fluid holding element to be uncovered for use;
16 charging said applicator assembly with a dispensable fluid by introducing said
17 fluid into said package via said package opening; and
18 sealing said package opening.